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Responsibility Education

ILLINOIS DOCUMENTS

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And

VOTING

A Cooperative Effort By

State Board of Education
and
State Board of Elections

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"MOCK ELECTION"

SPRING 1976

Aimed at teaching the young children the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, this program introduces the children to the election process. By means of a mock election they are taught that the vote is important and is their voice in a democracy.

During the mock election activity, the children are given an opportunity

- to experience how campaigning influences the voter,
- to learn how to vote on a paper ballot, and
- to realize the importance of voting in secret.

This experience brings real-life situations into the classroom and encourages good citizenship.

The materials provided to implement this program include background information on elections for the teacher, step-by-step instructions for conducting the mock election, and a variety of related student activities.

"MOCK ELECTION"

NOVEMBER 1976

In conjunction with the November 2, 1976 general election, an election-education program is being promoted in the junior and senior high schools throughout Illinois. This program is designed to give the students an opportunity to face the adulthood challenges involved in voting. Centered about a mock election, it

- makes the students aware of voter qualifications and registration,
- encourages the students to investigate the issues and to "speak out" for the candidates of their choice, and
- helps the students become familiar with voting procedures and the Illinois laws governing the electoral process.

To carry out this program the teacher is provided with background information, step-by-step procedures, and the necessary materials to conduct the mock election.

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"ILLINOIS ELECTION BRIEF"

A RESOURCE PROGRAM

Beginning in September, the first in a series of monthly election briefs will be distributed to all senior high school history and civics teachers in Illinois. This new program is being developed by the State Board of Elections, Illinois Office of Education, and the Illinois Council for the Social Studies. The purpose of the program is to provide current information on various Illinois election topics. Topics covered by the briefs include:

- Voter Qualifications—Registration
- Why Vote?
- Voting Procedures
- Voting Devices
- The Ballot
- Cumulative Voting
- Judges of Election
- Pollwatchers
- Types of Elections

The "Election Brief" program will provide teachers with the background knowledge necessary to make their history and government courses come alive in the area of voter education.

RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP

AN IMPORTANT GOAL OF EDUCATION

An appreciation of the right to vote is important in developing responsible citizens. The Illinois Office of Education and the State Board of Elections are striving to expand this appreciation in the students through the development, distribution and recommendation of three election education programs:

"Mock Election," Spring 1976,

"Mock Election," November 1976,

"Illinois Election Brief."

These programs will prepare our young people for responsible citizenship by helping them gain a better understanding of our electoral process. They are designed to introduce the students to the election laws and to voting procedures, with emphasis on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. These programs are an integral part of the four "R's" of education—reading, 'riting, 'rithmetic, and responsibility—currently being stressed in the schools throughout Illinois.

COPIES OF THE DESCRIBED PRO-GRAMS MAY BE OBTAINED BY WRITING OR CALLING:

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
PLANNING AND
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
1020 SOUTH SPRING STREET
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
217-782-4141

OR

ILLINOIS OFFICE OF EDUCATION
PROGRAM PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT
100 NORTH FIRST STREET
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
217-782-2826

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